Errata: August Computer

Figure 2 in Shimon Ullman’s “Analysis of Visual Motion by Biological and Computer Systems” was incorrectly referenced as Figure 2a in the text of the article. The end of the paragraph containing the figure reference (August 1981 Computer, p. 59) should have read as follows: “The organization of an on-center cell is shown in Figure 2. The response is maximal in the middle of the receptive field, decreases as the light stimulus is moved outward, and becomes negative in the surround.” That is, the sentence referring to Figure 2b, not used in the article, should have been deleted.

Four figures in “LSI/VLSI Building Blocks” by James R. Tobias were not properly credited. The captions for Figures 1, 4, and 6 (August 1981 Computer, pp. 84, 85, and 86) should have noted that they are based on drawings from Integrated Circuit Engineering Corporation, Scottsdale, Arizona.

US chalks up record trade surplus in computers

The US trade surplus in computers exceeded $3.5 billion in the first six months of 1981, according to Census Bureau data compiled by CBEMA, the Computer and Business Equipment Manufacturers’ Association. The surplus represents a 26.2 percent increase over the first-half 1980 figure. Projected over the whole year, the figure indicates an annual 1981 surplus of $7 billion.

CBEMA reports that imports of computers and business equipment together totaled $1.73 billion for the first six months of 1981—an 18 percent increase over the $1.46 billion figure for the first half of 1980.

At the same time, exports of computers and business equipment reached $5.29 billion in the first half, up 23 percent over the first six months of 1980 ($4.28 billion).

The business-equipment sector in the first six months experienced a trade deficit of $52.5 million. But computers alone enjoyed a handsome $3.5 billion surplus, up 24 percent over a year ago. (A surplus in forms and supplies offset the business-equipment deficit in the aggregate total.)

CBEMA annual projections for 1981 indicate that exports of computers and business equipment together will reach $11 billion, while imports will total $4 billion.